



Sea Dwellers & Friends

Angola, IN

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Musk Turtle/Mud Turtle

Sternotherus odoratus

Common Name: Common Musk Turtle

Scientific Name: *Sternotherus odoratus*

General Info: The Common Musk Turtle can be found in Southeastern United States. They can grow to be about six inches long and are not recommended to be housed with more aggressive feeders.

Temperature/Humidity: Keep the temperature between seventy and eighty-eight degrees Fahrenheit.

Lighting: The Musk Turtle requires full spectrum lighting and U.V. radiation. Standard aquarium lighting may also be used.

Feeding/Watering: You will want to use chlorinated water to prevent bacteria buildup in your tank as well as filtering heavily between water changes. Dead feeder goldfish, snails, earthworms, etc should be used for feeding.

Habitat/Housing: A ten gallon tank is recommended to house two to three Musk Turtles. A larger tank is suitable for four or more turtles. You should use a bare or sand substrate to cover the bottom of the tank and also provide a water depth of at least three to five inches. Create shelters by placing driftwood, rocks, and plants around the tank.

Other Notes: Many other subspecies of turtles can be maintained under similar conditions.